

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 through 13 are pending in the application with the present amendments. A new abstract is submitted herewith and applicants submit that it now complies with the size requirement and is representative of applicants' disclosure. No new matter is introduced by way of the new abstract submitted herewith.

In the Office Action, claims 7-13 were allowed and claims 2-6 were indicated as being allowable if amended to include the recitations of claim 1 from which they formerly depended. Only claim 1 was rejected over prior art.

Accordingly, claim 1 is amended herein to include the recitations of former claim 2, making claim 1 now allowable over the prior art. In addition, claim 5 is amended to include the recitations of claim 1 from which it formerly depended, making claim 5 now allowable. As claims 3, 4 and 6 depend from claims 1 or claim 5, applicants submit that they too are now allowable.

Certain other amendments are made to the claims herein for the purpose of making them more readable and not for any substantial reason related to patentability over the prior art or otherwise.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that she telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which she might have.

Application No.: 10/088,179

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-801

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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